

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05

DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /114 W

-----221255Z 038264 /53

R 221103Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3930

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0960

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT SU ET

SUBJECT: EPLF ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE

REF: KHARTOUM 922 (NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCALSSIFIED.

1. GOS MONTHLY ENGLISH NEWS MAGAZINE 'SUDANOW' IN MARCH
ISSUE, WHICH WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED, CARRIES ACCOUNT OF
FIRST ERITREAN PEOPLE'S LIBERATION FORCES (EPLF) ORGANIZ-
ATIONAL CONGRESS, HELD IN ERITREA LATE JANUARY. ACCORDING
THIS ACCOUNT, DELEGATES CAME FROM PDRY, SUDAN, LIBYA, SYRIA,
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SOMALIA, IRAQ AND ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY. OTHER REPRESENT-
ATIVES WERE THERE FROM SEVERAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS INCLUDING
PFLP AND EPRP. FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY AND ITALIAN SOCIALIST
PARTY SENT TELEGRAMS OF SUPPORT.

2. CONGRESS DEALT WITH VARIOUS ORGAINZATION, POLITICAL,
ECONOMIC, MILITARY AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS IN ERITREA. NUMBER

OF RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WERE ISSUED, AND POLITICAL PROGRAM AND CONSTITUTION AIMED AT UNITING ERITREAN FACTIONS WERE ADOPTED. ACCORDING ARTICLE, FOR LASTING UNITY COMPETING ERITREAN FACTIONS MUST MAINTAIN UNITED FRONT AND COORDINATE FIELD OPERATIONS AND INFORMATION WHILE EACH GROUP MAINTAINS ITS IDENTITY. CONGRESS ELECTED 43-MEMBER CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND 13 MAN POLITICAL BUREAU HEADED BY SECRETARY GENERAL RAMADAN MOHAMED NUR AND VICE SECRETARY GENERAL ISAYAS AFEWERK.

3. CONGRESS CONDEMNED THIRD FORCE LED BY OSMAN SALIH SABBE AS REACTIONARY AND ANTI-NATIONAL. IT ALSO REJECTED DIRG'S NINE-POINT PEACE POLICY. IT REAFFIRMED IT WILL ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH EPMG TOGETHER WITH PARTICIPATION OF ELF ONLY ON BASIS SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE FOR ERITREAN PEOPLE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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4. LIKE OSMAN SALIH SABBE INTERVIEW WITH SUNA REPORTED REFTEL, SUDANOW STORY IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF GOS-CONTROLLED MEDIA BEING USED TO HELP PUBLICIZE ERITREAN CAUSE. AS WITH SABBE INTERVIEW, NEED FOR UNITY AMONG ERITREAN FACTIONS IS STRESSED. WE NOTE CONDEMNATION OF SABBE LAST JAN BY EPLF OCCURRED NEARLY TWO MONTHS PRIOR HIS SUNA INTERVIEW. AS NOTED REFTEL, WE THINK SABBE MAY HAVE REACHED SOME UNDERSTANDING WITH GOS RE HIS ROLE IN FUTURE INDEPENDENT ERITREAN REGIME. IT MAY BE, THEREFORE, SINCE JAN EPLF CONGRESS, AS RESULT SIDANESE EFFORTS, ANTAGONISM BETWEEN EPLF AND SABBE HAS EASED.

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BREWER

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Sent Date: 22-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, SU, ET, EPLF, (OSMAN SALIH SABBE)
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